

## STATE OF WASHINGTON COMMISSION ON AFRICAN AMERICAN AFFAIRS

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Commissioner Sandy Williams Representing Eastern Washington

Edward O. Prince, Executive Director

June 13, 2013

TO: David Schumacher, Director - OFM

FROM: Edward Prince, Director – Commission on African American Affairs

## SUBJECT: BUDGET CONTINGENCY PLANNING FOR COMMISSION ON AFRICAN AMERICAN AFFAIRS

In response to your memo dated June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013 you will find the answers to your questions needed to prepare agency contingency budget plans in the event the Legislature fails to make appropriations by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013.

- 1. Our Commission has no services funded by appropriations in the enacted transportation budget.
- 2. Our Commission has no services that do not require an appropriation from non-appropriated funds.
- 3. Our Commission has no service that would continue based on constitutional mandates or federal law. There is only the existence of state statute which does not apply.
- 4. Our Commission along with the other minority commissions are the only avenue of communication between the Governor's office, the legislature, state agencies and the minority communities in which we serve. In the event of a "government shut down" communities of color would be unapprised of the reasoning, lack of services, expectations and solutions going forward. Communities of color heavily rely on government services and need the Commissions to continue operations in order to become educated on the realities of a "government shut down." It is essential for us to continue to represent the state government to these communities to relay critical information relating to government services including but not limited to public safety, safety net services and essential human services programs.

Please don't hesitate to contact our agency with any questions, comments or concerns.

Thank you for your time and understanding.